

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN ROGER SOMERVILLE**, on January 8, 2001
at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Roger Somerville, Chairman (R)
Rep. Sylvia Bookout-Reinicke, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Carol C. Juneau, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Darrel Adams (R)
Rep. Joe Balyeat (R)
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)
Rep. Ronald Devlin (R)
Rep. Dave Gallik (D)
Rep. George Golie (D)
Rep. Donald L. Hedges (R)
Rep. Jim Keane (D)
Rep. Gary Matthews (D)
Rep. William Price (R)
Rep. Allen Rome (R)
Rep. Frank Smith (D)
Rep. Donald Steinbeisser (R)
Rep. Karl Waitschies (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Rep. Steven Gallus (D)

Staff Present: Donna Huffman, Committee Secretary
Leanne Kurtz, Legislative Branch

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Orientation Meeting

Chairman Roger Somerville opened the meeting by briefly stating the bills we will be going over next week. On Monday, January 15, 2001, we will be hearing HB 75, HB 78 and HJ 3. On

Wednesday, January 17, 2001, we will be hearing HB 18, HB 127 and HB 137. On Friday, January 19, 2001, we will be hearing HB 72, HB 131 and HB 148. On Monday, January 22, 2001, we will be hearing HB 86, HB 67 and HB 153. Chairman Somerville said we will be going to Department of Transportation on Friday, January 19, 2001, to see the facilities. Chairman Somerville introduced Mr. Jim Currie, Deputy Director of Department of Transportation.

Mr. Currie said he is giving an overview of Key MDT Processes and Tools. Mr. Currie stated that the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) has put in place a Performance Programming Process. See Orientation notebook, **EXHIBIT (trh05a01)** (hearing 01/05/01). Mr. Currie introduced Pat Saindon, Planning Administrator for the Department of Transportation.

Ms. Saindon stated that all state DOT's have a long range plan. Montana's DOT long range plan is called TranPlan 21. Ms. Saindon went over Management Systems and Funding Distribution Plan, Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Program Delivery Monitoring. See Orientation notebook, (hearing 01/05/01).

Ms. Saindon introduced Mr. Currie to speak about the Strategic Business Plan.

EXHIBIT (trh05a02)

Mr. Currie introduced Mike Ferguson, Administrator of Aeronautics Division. Mr. Ferguson stated he will give an overview of Economic Development and how aviation and airports fit into that program in the Department of Transportation in Montana. Mr. Ferguson talked about Big Sky Airlines-Billings, MT., about their daily operations. Also spoke about Venture Star Program. See Orientation notebook, (hearing 01/05/01).

Mr. Currie introduced Pat C. Keim, Director of Government Affairs with Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway. Mr. Keim gave an overview of BNSF, and Montana's Rail System. **EXHIBIT (trh05a03)** Mr. Keim stated that Montana's Rail System is a critical part of Montana's transportation system and economy. Mr. Keim spoke about major rail issue's including challenges and constraints. Mr. Keim spoke about MDT rail programs and initiatives. See Orientation notebook, (hearing 01/05/01).

Chairman Somerville closed the meeting saying we will go over Federal-Aid Highway Program and then go into Motor Carrier Services Issues on Wednesday, January 8, 2001, to finish up orientation for today.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:30 P.M.

REP. ROGER SOMERVILLE, Chairman

DONNA HUFFMAN, Secretary

RS/DH

EXHIBIT (trh05aad)